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DE RUEHUJA #1272 1940647
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY ABUJA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6531
INFO RUEHOS/AMCONSUL LAGOS PRIORITY 1638
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RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0953
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ABUJA 001272

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DEPT FOR AF/W, INR/AA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/06/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [NI](#)

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: POLITICAL PARTY BUYOUTS IN BAUCHI STATE:
A PARABLE OF NIGERIAN POLITICS

REF: A. ABUJA 1115

[1](#)B. ABUJA 679

Classified By: Political Counselor Walter N.S. Pflaumer for reasons 1.4
(b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (U) On June 24, the Bauchi State House of Assembly served Deputy Governor Muhammad Garba Gadi with an impeachment notice for alleged financial wrong-doing. State Chief Judge Justice Sabo Suleiman Darazo constituted an investigative panel, which the State House of Assembly later dissolved for failure to follow due process in appointing and inaugurating its members. Gadi's impeachment notice follows his refusal to defect from the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) and join Bauchi Governor Isa Yuguda in his move to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in April 2009.

[1](#)2. (U) According to local press reports, two-thirds of the House of Assembly had signed the impeachment notice even before an impeachable offense was named. Legislators reportedly were offered 10 million naira (about \$68,000) each for their signatures. Many opposition party members have accused the President and the PDP of "tyranny" and "plotting to turn Nigeria into a one-party state," while others warn that that PDP is testing the water now in order to ascertain the level of oppression that will be necessary during the 2011 election campaign.

[1](#)3. (C) Comment: The situation in Bauchi State is a telling parable for Nigerian politics. The ruling PDP party lost the 2007 Bauchi gubernatorial election, but reclaimed the state through the Governor's marriage to President Yar'Adua's daughter and subsequent defection from the ANPP to the PDP. Now the PDP is looking to build its voter base in Bauchi by buying the defections of Members of Bauchi's State Assembly and forcibly removing those it cannot, such as the Deputy Governor. End Comment.

[1](#)4. (U) This cable was coordinated with Consulate Lagos.
SANDERS